

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer resource marketing system comprising:  
a computer with a logical partition control means for  
dividing resources of the computer into a plurality of  
logical partitions and designating at least one logical  
partition to be as lendable;

a client system that requests use of the resources of  
the computer and submits processing to the computer;

a resource database storing lending conditions and  
certification information of the logical partitions of the  
computer; and

a management means that searches the resource  
database according to use requirements defined by the client  
system, finds a logical partition that meets the use  
requirements, notifies the client system of the logical  
partition found by the search, and grants the client system  
permission to use the logical partition.

2. The computer resource marketing system of claim  
1, wherein the logical partition control means has  
allocation information indicating resources that have been  
allocated to the logical partitions of the computer, and  
comprises an altering means for changing logical partitions  
according to the allocation information, and a means for

disabling change of the logical partition while the client is using it.

3. The computer resource marketing system of claim 1, wherein:

the resource database has allocation information that indicates resources allocated to the logical partitions of the computer;

the logical partition control means has a alteration means for changing logical partitions according to the allocation information of the resource database; and

the management means changes the allocation information according to the use requirements defined by the client.

4. The computer resource marketing system of claim 3, wherein the management means disables change of the allocation information of the resource database corresponding to the pertinent logical partition while the logical partition is being used.

5. The computer resource marketing system of claim 1, wherein different operating systems are bootable in the plurality of logical partitions.

6. The computer resource marketing system of claim 5, wherein the operating systems are stored in a file server linked to the computer, and the logical partition control means causes one of the operating systems meeting the defined use requirements to be booted in the logical partitions used by the client system.

7. The computer resource marketing system of claim 1, further comprising a billing information computing means for computing billing information according to use of the logical partitions by the client system.

8. A computer resource marketing method for a computer system configured by interconnection of:  
at least one computer having resources divided into a plurality of logical partitions, at least one of the logical partitions being available for lending;  
a client system that requests use of the resources of the computer and submits processing to the computer;  
a resource database storing lending conditions and certification information of the logical partitions for each said computer; and  
a management means for searching the resource database according to use requirements defined by the client system;  
the method comprising steps of:

searching the resource database, on reception of use requirements from the client system, for a computer with lending conditions that meet the use requirements;

notifying the client system, based on the search result, of certification information of a computer that meets the use requirements;

submitting processing from the client system to a logical partition of the computer of which the client system was notified; and

disabling change of allocation information associated with said logical partition at least while said logical partition is being used by the client system.

9. The computer resource marketing method of claim 8, further comprising a step of changing the allocation information after the step of searching for a logical partition according to use requirements received from the client system, and a step of changing the logical partition according to the allocation information.

10. The computer resource marketing method of claim 8, further comprising a step of computing billing information for the computer that has been used by the client system.

11. A computer resource marketing system comprising:  
a resource database that stores information about logical  
partitions that have been set as resources of the computer;  
a client system that can request use of resources of the  
computer and submit processing to the computer; and  
a management server that searches the resource database  
based on use requirements defined by the client system and  
notifies the client system of an available logical  
partition.

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